## TRANSPORTATION



## CONSTRUCTION ALERT McDowell Road Bridge Widening • APRIL 2003

The State Route 51 crossing at McDowell Road is being rebuilt as part of the \$75.7 million freeway renovation project that began last month. Work at the bridge site is scheduled to begin by the end of the month, and could take up to a year to complete.

The 220-foot, single-span bridge that carries SR51 over McDowell is being widened by as much as 16 feet on each side to accommodate new carpool (High

Occupancy Vehicle) lanes.

Additional bridge girders will be attached to both sides of the existing structure. Unique support towers will be placed on McDowell to temporarily stay the new girders. The massive girders will be cast from concrete at a nearby site and hauled to the bridge.

Each girder will be cast in three sections, the largest of which will be 90-feet long, with a weight of more

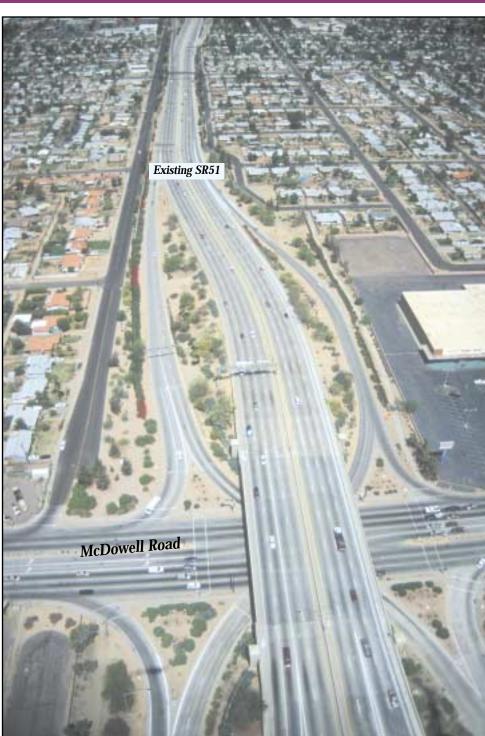
than 100 tons.

Initial work at the bridge site will begin this weekend. A full closure of McDowell Road is scheduled to begin at 9:00 p.m. on Friday, April 25. The closure will remain in place through 5:00 a.m. on Monday, April 28.

During the closure, workers will remove outside barrier walls from the bridge structure. Thomas Road and Van Buren Street will be available as alternate routes. SR51 will be narrowed to one lane in each direction over McDowell during the closure.

At least four additional full closures of McDowell Road will be required as construction advances. Lane restrictions will remain in place on McDowell, at the SR51 interchange, through the duration of construction. Freeway entrance and exit ramps will also be reduced to single lanes during this work and restrictions will be necessary at various times on SR51 over McDowell Road.

Future closures also will include northbound and southbound SR 51 entrances, the southbound exit to McDowell, and ramps from Loop 202 to northbound SR51.



Numerous closures of McDowell Rd. at SR51 will be required to widen the bridge.

# McDowell Bridge Widening North **McDowell Road New Roadway New Bridges New Sound Walls New Retaining Wall Future Carpool Lanes**

### STATE ROUTE 51 PROJECT PARTICULARS

- □ \$75.7 million contract awarded to the joint venture Design-Build team of Ames/Kraemer by the State Transportation Board, January 17, '03
- ☐ Project duration is 330 calendar days beginning March 31, '03
- ☐ An additional lane in each direction from the existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on I-10 to Shea Boulevard that will serve as HOV lanes during peak
- ☐ An elevated ramp over westbound I-10 between Van Buren and Roosevelt streets for the new SR 51 / I-10 **HOV** connection
- □ New westbound I-10 exit to SR51 / Loop 202, just south of Jefferson Street, leading to a new connector road parallel to I-10
- Relocation of the Washington / Jefferson Street entrance to westbound I-10, allowing motorists an option to remain on a new connector road to SR 51 /Loop 202, easing congested traffic movements
- Resurfacing with rubberized asphalt from McDowell Road to Shea Boulevard
- Installation of a continuous concrete median barrier and other safety improvements
- Additional sound mitigation measures, including new or higher noise walls where possible
- Modification of existing access to pedestrian crossings at Oak and Campbell streets
- ☐ Drainage improvements, including a storm water detention basin and underground storm water storage systems, from Highland to Montebello Avenue
- ☐ Freeway Management System improvements and new signage
- ☐ Improvements to the freeway lighting system





### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Project Hotline: (602) 248-3098** Daily updates on planned closures & restrictions

Website: www.SR51.com

**Complete construction information and scheduling** 

- ☐ Robert Wade, P.E. (602) 279-2800 **ADOT Senior Resident Engineer** Email: rwade@dot.state.az.us
- ☐ Mark Bonan (602) 712-7176 **ADOT Valley Project Information** Email: mbonan@dot.state.az.us